

Reply To Examiner's Remarks

Claims 1-8, 10, 12-14, as amended, and new claims 37-44 are presented for consideration.

The Examiner objects to Figure 1 of the drawings, noting that this Figure should be labeled as Prior Art. An amended Figure 1, labeled as Prior Art, is submitted herein for approval by the Examiner.

The Examiner objects to an unspecified drawing, believed to be Figure 6, noting the driving electrode 91 is not explicitly shown in this Figure. An amended Figure 6, labeling the driving electrode 91, is submitted herein for approval by the Examiner.

The Examiner objects to the Brief Description of the Drawings, asserting the "Figs. 8a-c" and "Figs. 9a-c" should be re-expressed as "Figs. 8a, 8b and 8c" and as "Figs. 9a and 9b," respectively. These changes are made herein on pages 3 and 8 on the specification.

The Examiner objects to the title and requires submission of a new title for the application. The Applicants have reconsidered the present title and believe that the present title does describe the invention. The Applicants ask the Examiner to recommend a title that the Examiner believes adequately describes the invention.

The Examiner rejects claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite, noting the parameters a, b and c are not adequately defined. Claims 7 and 8 are amended herein to more refer to a, b and c as non-zero numbers.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-8 and 13-14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious in view of cited combinations of U.S. Patent No. 6,504,653, issued to Peeters et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,128,122, issued to Drake et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,629,794, issued to Magel et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,739,941, issued to Knipe et

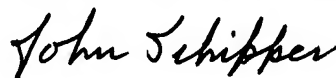
al, and U.S. Patent No. 5,894,090, issued to Tang et al.

The Examiner indicates that claims 9-12 would be allowable if rewritten as independent claims including the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 9 is canceled herein, and claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of former claim 9. Claim 10 is amended to depend upon the amended claim 1. Claims 2-8 and 13-14 now depend upon amended claim 1 and are believed to be allowable if amended claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 11 is canceled herein, and former claims 1 and 11 are combined as new claim 37. Claim 12 is amended herein to depend upon new claim 37. New claims 38; 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44, introduced herein, depend upon new claim 37 and correspond to the respective claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and are believed to be allowable if new claim 37 is allowable.

The Applicants have responded to the objections and rejections, have rewritten claims 1 and 9 as amended claim 1, have amended claim 10 to depend upon amended claim 1, have rewritten claims 1 and 11 as new claim 37, and have amended claim 12 to depend upon new claim 37. The Applicants request that the Examiner pass the application, including claims 1-8, 10 and 12-14, as amended, and new claims 37-44, to issue as a U.S. patent.

Respectfully Submitted,



John Schipper

Date: 26 February 2004

Patent representative for Applicants

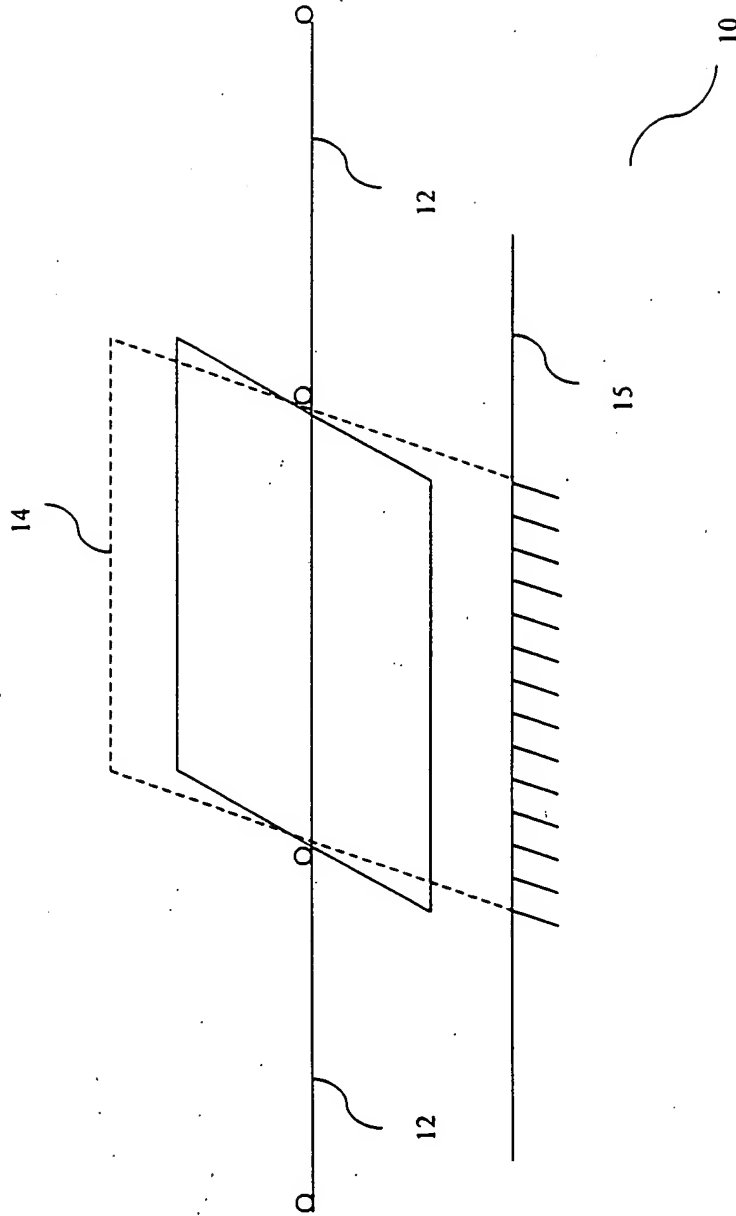


Fig. 1 (Prior Art)

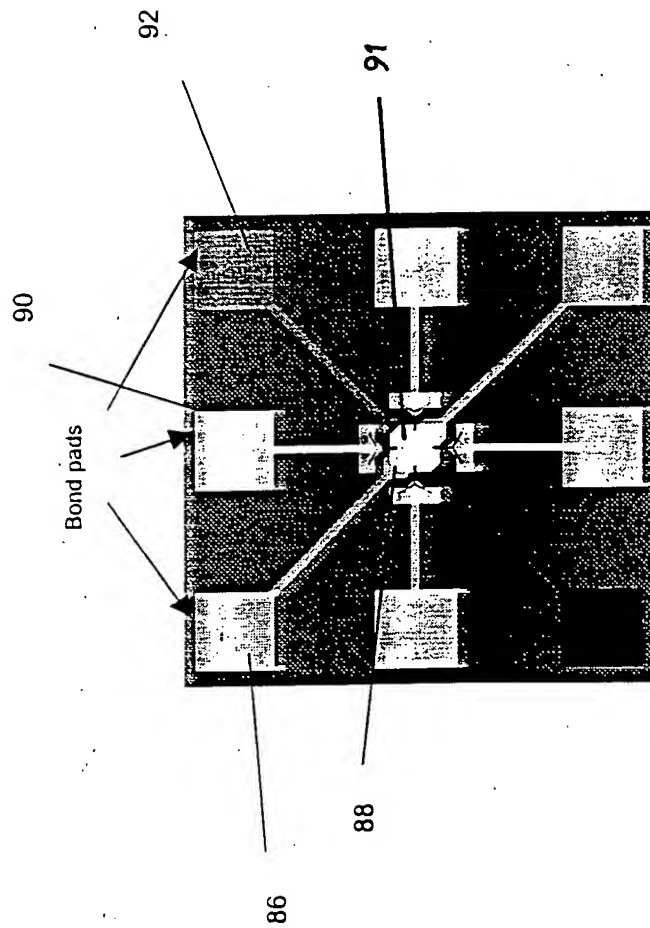


Fig. 6